

THE INDEPENDENT

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily (including Sunday) per year \$10.00
 Daily (including Sunday) six months 5.00
 Daily (including Sunday) three months 2.50
 Daily (including Sunday) per month .85
 Daily (excluding Sunday) per year 7.00
 Daily (excluding Sunday) per month .60
 Daily, by carrier, per week (7 issues) 25
 Weekly (in advance only) per year 2.00

Remittances at the risk of subscriber unless made by registered letter, check, or postal or express order payable to The Independent Publishing Company.

Persons desiring THE INDEPENDENT served at their homes or places of business can order by postal card or through telephone No. 100. Please report cases of irregular delivery promptly.

Advertisements to insure prompt insertion, should be handed in before 5 p. m.

Rejected communications not returned unless postage is enclosed.

HELENA, MONT., DEC. 6, 1889.

INVESTIGATE BOTH.

Some of our republican friends who frankly own that they do not like the attitude into which Senatorial Candidates Hershfield, Power and Sanders have forced the party, try to find some excuse for the bolt of the republican representatives by asserting that the remarkably large proportion of the democratic vote to the republican vote at precinct 31 is an evidence that the election was not fair.

Well, then, how about Bonner precinct in Missoula county where 131 republican and 10 democratic votes were cast, a most amazing republican preponderance and gain. And two days after the election came this despatch over the wires: "The Bonner mills have closed. The logs gave out the day after election, and the men have been discharged for the season."

Do you believe, Messrs. Republicans, that that is likely to have been a fairer vote than that at tunnel precinct?

Come, gentlemen, be fair about this thing. Start an investigating committee on the tunnel precinct at once; send another to Missoula county. If it is merely on "suspicious circumstances" you are holding out against the regular organization of the house of representatives bestir yourselves and investigate. Look into the vote at the tunnel and at Bonner. It is a matter of common report that at the latter precinct all the ballots were made out by one man. Let's have the facts.

WANAMAKER'S HOBBY.

The postmaster general recommends that the government make an experimental arrangement with the telegraph companies whereby night messages shall be made part of the mails and delivered by letter carriers. The suggestion might please those in large cities who patronize the telegraph, but even that is by no means sure. It is only in cities of the first class that there is delivery by carriers early in the day—say before 9 a. m.—and as a rule telegrams are of too urgent a nature to permit of their being entrusted to carriers who are likely to be charged with the delivery of letter and newspaper mail at a hundred or more houses, each trip requiring from two to three hours. Patrons of the telegraph will prefer the existing system of delivery by special messengers, who are dispatched at frequent intervals and with only a few messages. The division of responsibility for prompt delivery between the telegraph companies and the government would not tend to improve the service. To insure a satisfactory delivery of telegraphic communications by letter carriers would entail a large additional expense upon the postoffice department, while the benefit would be restricted to a very small class and, as a rule, one well able to bear its own burdens.

When the postmaster general says that "the vast network of wires covering the country could easily reach many of the village postoffices and benefit more people than by stopping at the railroad stations, which are often a mile or more distant from where the people live," he probably overlooked two facts, one of which is that it is the existence of railroads and the needs of the railway service that brings the wires to railway stations, where they are used in directing the running of trains, etc., and the other is that the telegraph companies are at all times ready to establish offices in villages where there is a reasonable probability of sufficient business to defray the expense of maintenance, not because of a spirit of philanthropy on the part of the corporation, but merely as a matter of policy, just as the postmaster general has added one article or another to the stock on his bargain counter when he believed it to be to his interest to do so.

Mr. Wanamaker has made postal telegraphy his hobby, and he is riding it on every possible occasion. Many of his ideas upon the subject are crude and evidently attributable to a sentiment akin to that which causes a parent to overestimate the capacity of his favorite child.

CURRENT report has it that President Hippielyte, of Hayti, regards the sending of Fred Douglass, a colored man, as United States minister to Port au Prince as an affront, holding that this, being a nation of whites, should have sent to Hayti a pure-blooded Caucasian as its diplomatic representative, just as it sent white men to Berlin, Paris and London. This appointment of Douglass has given President Harrison no end of trouble. Made with the purpose of placating the colored republicans, it was not accepted by Mr. Douglass with that avidity which the president expected to see exhibited. When, after several months' delay, Mr. Douglass did finally indicate that he would oblige his Howerly highness, consent

to fill a third-class mission in an insalubrious climate, and a naval vessel was ordered to convey him and his white wife and their personal belongings, the minister bethought himself to ask if he and Mrs. Douglass would be welcome at the officers' mess, and was answered so emphatically in the negative that he refused to sail by that boat. Subsequently the Keamsburg was ordered to make ready for sea, and through the exercise of some diplomacy the question of social status was abridged and the minister and his wife were conveyed to Port au Prince on board that prehistoric naval tub, arriving there safely, possibly to the surprise of the navy and state departments. And now to find that Hippielyte has drawn the color line—its altogether too awful ly awful.

CONGRESSMAN Thomas Henry Carter is a very slippery individual, but even aided by the esteemed Herald he cannot slip out of his responsibility for supporting Thomas B. Reed, the enemy of our silver interests, for speaker of the house of representatives. The Herald says that the telegram sent by the Montana delegation at the St. Louis silver convention urging Carter to vote against Reed, because of his anti-silver record, did not reach Carter until after he had voted for Reed in caucus. The Herald will pardon us for saying that its statement is a strain on credulity. The silver convention adjourned on Thursday. The protesting telegram was sent to Carter that night. The caucus of republican representatives in congress was held on Saturday from 12 to 5 p. m. Where was that telegram that it didn't reach Carter for more than thirty-six hours? Where was Carter that the telegraph company couldn't find him for a day and a half? But what an excuse to offer anyhow. Just as if Carter didn't know Reed's record without having somebody tell him about it! Bah! Watch the committee appointments and you will see why Carter voted against the interests of his state.

It would be quite in line with the history and traditions of the republican party should it attempt to force through an act of congress taking away from the states control of elections for president and members of the house of representatives, but it would be a pity should Henry Cabot Lodge, a man of whom better things might have been expected, assume the paternity of a bill for such an act, as is said to be the programme. Force laws, test oaths and other devices to rob the people of their elective freedom have been resorted to in the past by republican congresses and the proposed law to put United States marshals in charge of the polls in every state of the Union will, doubtless, have the unanimous support of the republican majority of the Fifty-first congress. Democrats, however, are alive to the danger and will resist at the outset any scheme to remodel the rules of order of the house according to the republican programme leading up to the objective point, and employ all legitimate means to defeat a conspiracy against a free ballot.

On the stump Thomas H. Carter cries: "Elect me to Congress in order that democrats may not put wool on the free list." On the eve of the assembling of congress Mr. Carter arrays himself with that faction of his party, in the speakership fight, that supports the free men's candidate, Thomas B. Reed. Mr. Carter may be a candidate for reelection next November; if so he will again ask votes because of his love of the sheepskin.

HENRY M. STANLEY is a dead shot with his trusty rifle, with which he has sent terror into many a hostile African band, but when it comes to drawing the line between chance and Providence, he is in danger of creating a panic in the theological camp. In his account of his expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha, he has described an incident of peculiar peril, and which resulted in the death of some valued companions, he says: "Was it chance or Providence which got us out of that evil path? I think it was chance, for Providence ought to have saved others as well as us."

MISS WINNIE DAVIS. According to the Mobile Register, Miss Winnie Davis is one of those charming personalities, like Mrs. Cleveland, toward whom every man and every woman is insensitely drawn. It is a great gift, greater than riches or power, to have this personal magnetism. When the Aberdeen delegation went down to call upon the ex-president the other day, Miss Davis helped make the visitors welcome, and each member of the delegation felt in his heart of hearts that Miss Davis smiled more sweetly and more graciously upon him than upon the others, though it was noticed that Private John Allen obtained the greater part of her time. Meanwhile Mr. Davis was telling Captain Sykes what a fine colonel the captain had been during the war and what fine colonels the Mississippians were generally, and there is no kind of doubt that Captain Sykes was pleased to have his known merits recognized by the chief of the southern confederacy. On the way home the compliments paid Captain Sykes seemed to occupy too much room in the parlor car wherein the delegation had taken refuge, and when Captain Sykes allowed a break to occur in the conversation Private Allen remarked quietly that he guessed the gentlemen had not heard what Miss Winnie was saying to him while Mr. Davis was talking Captain Sykes all over with glory. It was true, no one had heard what Miss Winnie had said, so Private Allen, after some solicitation, proceeded to say that Miss Winnie was very warm in her greeting, and after hearing the remarks of her father addressed to Captain Sykes, turned to Mr. Allen and said: "All through that long and bloody contest for southern liberty I watched your brilliant career as a private (subdued snicker from Captain Sykes' corner of the car), and my father's cheek blanched pale as he announced to me in quivering tones that all was lost. Allen had surrendered." There was a solemn hush, only broken by the whispering of a new ballad, sounding in the tones of Captain Sykes and beginning with the words: "Winnie was a Baby Tuen."

NOTARY SEALS—New ones made and old ones changed. C. E. Komp, Helena, Mont.

VAGARIES OF WESTERN JUSTICE

Rough-and-Ready Methods Giving Way to Eastern Formality.

Several lawyers were chatting over a good bottle of wine in an up-town restaurant the other night, and as one of them was from Montana and another of them had spent some years of his younger days in Nevada, the conversation naturally drifted into a reminiscent channel. "I suppose your judges out west are a different class of men from what they used to be years ago, when the country was more uncivilized," said one. "I remember once we had great difficulty in securing a jury in a newly laid out town in Nevada. Nobody seemed willing to serve, that counsel on one side or other had not serious objections to. Finally a desirable looking stranger was called."

"Your honor," said he, "I am not qualified to serve. I am not a freeholder."

"Where do you live?" said the judge.

"In my tent out on Washington Boulevard," was the reply.

"Married?"

"No."

"Living all alone?"

"Yes."

"For how long?"

"Six weeks."

"You'll do," said the judge decisively. "I never knew a tenderfoot yet to keep back-dish's hall in a tent for six weeks but he had accumulated enough dirt to be a freeholder. So the man served."

"That's a pretty fair sample," said the westerner, "of the rough-and-ready style of the old-time justice, and it has not all died out yet by any means. Not long ago a miner, who had experienced all kinds of fortune, from the hardest up, struck it very rich in his old age, married a young wife and started on a protracted spree which ended in his death. A will executed a few hours before he died left all his property to his wife. His relatives in the east began suit on the ground that the testator was out of his mind when he made the will. The case came up before a judge who is known as a good liver and a golden-miner. Certainly some remarkable freaks were proved to have been performed by the old miner in the last few weeks of his life and the widow was put on the stand."

"What were your husband's last words?" said the counsel.

"I'd rather not tell," said she, blushing prettily and hesitating.

"Why not?" said her counsel. You must tell. The judge will think you are afraid it will damage your cause."

"Still blushing the pretty widow declined to tell. Finally the judge himself argued to her and told her that if she persisted in refusing, it would go far toward confirming his suspicions that the man was insane."

"Well," said the widow reluctantly, "he said: 'Kiss me, Puss, and open another bottle of champagne.'"

"Sensible to the very last," blurted out the judge. And so he decided, and would hear no more evidence."

"The most severe rebuke I ever got from the bench," said the first speaker, "was from one of those typical western judges who had determined that it was time to introduce a little more of the formalism of the east in his court than he had formerly insisted on. I had gone out there about as green as they make them and had purchased a half interest in the practice of a sharp lawyer, who immediately retired from practice in that town and made me a present of the remainder of his business, when he felt my money safe in his pocket. So I was thrown on my own resources and was soon floundering so deep in legal quagmires that the judge felt called on to interpose. A few moments later he would probably have poured out some choice abuse on my head, and would have offered to fight me if I did not like it. But now he was standing on formality."

"Young man," he said impressively, "the best thing you can do for yourself and for your client would be to hire a lawyer. I did so."

"That reminds me," said the other, "of a rebuke administered by one of our old justices to a fly young lawyer who came out there from the east with a determination to show everybody just how things should be done. He was well connected and well introduced, but soon got into debt and was an inveterate borrower from his friends and even from chance acquaintances. One day three justices were sitting on the bench together, and had also united in sitting on a young friend, who forthwith tried to get off the old gag about contempt of court."

"I wish your honors to fine me \$5 for contempt of court," said he.

"Why so, Mr. Smith?" said one of the justices, who did not at once tumble to the point: "You have not displayed any contempt."

"But I cherish a decided contempt for this court and am willing to pay for it," said Smith with a rhetorical flourish.

"Your contempt for this court is not to be mentioned in the same breath with the court's contempt for you," said the second justice.

"And we won't fine you, Mr. Smith," said the third, with a thump in his eye, "because we can't tell which one of us you would borrow the money from to pay it with."

"While the ushers were trying to restore quiet in the court out of the tumult of laughter that followed this neat and cutting reply, Mr. Smith got away in bad disorder."

Saved the Hangman a Job.

FLORENCE, ARIZ., Dec. 5.—Of five Apache Indians sentenced to be hanged here to-morrow, three committed suicide in their cells last night by tying a strip of cloth around their necks with double knots. They were discovered early this morning. The two remaining Apaches will be hanged to-morrow.

The Cashier Implicated.

HURLEY, WIS., Dec. 5.—Assistant Cashier Perrin, charged with complicity in the Hurley bank robbery, was held for trial to-day.

He proved an alibi, but it is claimed he gave away the combination to the vault, and evidence was introduced showing he made large expenditures after the robbery.

Handsome Harry Hanged.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—Harry Carlton, alias "Handsome Harry," the murderer of Policeman Brennan, was hanged at the tombs at 730 this morning. The killing occurred on October 28. Carlton and some other young toughs got into a row, and when Brennan tried to arrest them Carlton shot him dead.

Grain Boom at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—The most active day's business in the grain chambers in the history of this port was done yesterday. Nine steamships were chartered to load full cargoes of grain to Cork and elsewhere, for orders in the months of January, February and March. The total charters call for 822,000 bushels.

National Capt 1 Notes.

Blaine having recovered from his attack of lumbago, resumed his duties to-day.

The president has sent to the senate several hundred nominations of persons appointed to offices during the recess of congress. They were in the departments of state, justice, interior, war and navy.

The Live Stock Association.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—At to-day's session of the National Live Stock exchange resolutions asking for the repeal of the oleomargarine law, respecting Texas fever and concerning the leasing of stock cars to private individuals were presented and referred to the executive committee.

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